



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Commissioners Sponsor Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration at Veterans Memorial**

During this morning's General Session meeting, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners approved a partnership with the City of Columbus to sponsor the 2012 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration at Franklin County Veterans Memorial. This is the fourth year that Franklin County will officially partner with the City as a host for the event.

This year's celebration will begin on Monday, January 16 at 4 p.m., as the Commissioners and Columbus Mayor Michael B. Coleman, other elected officials, community leaders, and local residents gather at Columbus City Hall, 90 West Broad Street. At 4:45 p.m., the Commissioners and Mayor Coleman will lead the Ceremonial March across the Broad Street Bridge to Veterans Memorial, 300 West Broad Street. Following the march, a program themed "Celebrate the Legacy: Getting on the Bus" will begin at 6 p.m.

"Every year I look forward to this celebration of the life and legacy of Dr. King," said Commissioner Paula Brooks. "We must use our voices to continue the fight for equality for all of our residents."

"The lessons Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. taught us that always fighting for what you believe is right continue to resonate today," said Commissioner Marilyn Brown. "We are proud to partner in this community event recognizing the life and struggle of such an important and inspirational figure."

"Celebrations like this are important as we remember the legacy of Dr. King," said Commissioner John O'Grady. "More important is to teach our children the responsibility we all have to speak up and speak out for those who are being treated unjustly."

Admission to the celebration is free, but commemorative tickets are available. For more information and tickets, please call 614-645-1993.